

Board of Tax Appeals

STARS Number & Budget Unit: 351 TAAE

Bill Number & Chapter: H302 (Ch.232), S1167 (Ch.74)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: This program provides taxpayers the opportunity to appeal their ad valorem assessed valuations from a county board of equalization or tax decisions from the Idaho State Tax Commission. The Board of Tax Appeals provides a forum for taxpayers to present testimony and evidence at a quasi-judicial board hearing rather than through a district court trial, which can necessitate legal representation and expense.

DIVISION SUMMARY:	FY 2006 Total Appr	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Total Appr	FY 2008 Request	FY 2008 Gov Rec	FY 2008 Approp
BY FUND SOURCE						
General	338,900	336,800	491,100	503,000	364,500	444,500
Dedicated	9,300	8,100	12,600	0	0	0
Total:	348,200	344,900	503,700	503,000	364,500	444,500
Percent Change:		(0.9%)	46.0%	(0.1%)	(27.6%)	(11.8%)
BY EXPENDITURE CLASSIFICATION						
Personnel Costs	284,400	276,300	304,100	413,900	284,400	364,400
Operating Expenditures	63,800	68,600	191,700	74,500	69,100	69,100
Capital Outlay	0	0	7,900	14,600	11,000	11,000
Total:	348,200	344,900	503,700	503,000	364,500	444,500
Full-Time Positions (FTP)	4.00	4.00	4.25	5.75	4.00	5.00

In accordance with Section 67-3519, Idaho Code, this division is authorized no more than 5 full-time equivalent positions at any point during the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 for the programs specified.

DECISION UNIT SUMMARY:	FTP	General	Dedicated	Federal	Total
FY 2007 Original Appropriation	4.00	342,100	12,600	0	354,700
1. Hearing Costs	0.25	149,000	0	0	149,000
FY 2007 Total Appropriation	4.25	491,100	12,600	0	503,700
Removal of One-Time Expenditures	0.00	(130,000)	(12,600)	0	(142,600)
FY 2008 Base	4.25	361,100	0	0	361,100
Benefit Costs	0.00	3,800	0	0	3,800
Inflationary Adjustments	0.00	500	0	0	500
Replacement Items	0.00	12,000	0	0	12,000
Statewide Cost Allocation	0.00	(1,200)	0	0	(1,200)
Annualizations	0.75	57,200	0	0	57,200
Change in Employee Compensation	0.00	11,100	0	0	11,100
FY 2008 Total Appropriation	5.00	444,500	0	0	444,500
% Change From FY 2007 Original Approp.	25.0%	29.9%	(100.0%)		25.3%
% Change From FY 2007 Total Approp.	17.6%	(9.5%)	(100.0%)		(11.8%)

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION: In response to a spike in property tax appeals and the likelihood of continued workload issues, JFAC approved a two-pronged approach in S1167. Additional one-time money was provided as follows: \$44,000 for additional contract hours for a decision writer at \$110 per hour, \$51,100 for 1,860 paralegal hours, \$4,200 to contract mail clerks for 280 hours, \$6,800 to add 30 board member hearing days, and \$19,700 for travel and supply costs. Then, \$16,000 in ongoing personnel costs were added for a third Tax Policy Specialist to begin as soon as possible, plus \$4,200 one-time to equip that position, and \$3,000 ongoing was provided to bring the salary of an existing tax policy specialist up to the starting salary of the new position.

APPROPRIATION HIGHLIGHTS: Benefit costs were adjusted to restore one medical insurance premium holiday and seven life insurance premium holidays. JFAC also stipulated that increases in health insurance costs be paid from reserves. Inflationary increases were provided for a rent increase. Replacement items included \$5,000 for five computers, \$1,000 for two computer monitors, \$5,000 for a computer server, and \$1,000 for software. Statewide cost allocation included a reduction of \$1,300 for Attorney General fees and an increase of \$100 for Controller fees. In response to the approved supplemental appropriation, the annualization provided another .75 FTPs and \$49,400 for the remaining nine months salary for the Tax Policy Specialist and \$7,800 for the salary increase provided for the existing tax policy specialist. The Change in Employee Compensation was funded at 5%.

FY 2008 APPROPRIATION:	FTP	Pers. Cost	Oper Exp	Cap Out	T/B Pymnts	Lump Sum	Total
G 0001-00 General	5.00	364,400	68,100	0	0	0	432,500
OT G 0001-00 General	0.00	0	1,000	11,000	0	0	12,000
Totals:	5.00	364,400	69,100	11,000	0	0	444,500